

REFERENCE

DO NOT CIRCULATE

It is with a feeling of trepidation that I attempt to write even a semblance of a history of Indiana State College Library, for this is in essence a summation of my husband's dream, his life work.

Since my arrival in Terre Haute was thirty-five years after the first books were purchased, and twenty years before Mr. Cunningham became Librarian, I have depended to a large extent upon the records which have been kept and the knowledge and observations of those who have been connected with the library.

Indiana State Normal School opened its doors in 1870, and three years later in 1873, Chauncey Rose, one of the early benefactors of this Community and founder of Rose Polytechnic Institute, gave to the Board of Trustees of the School \$4,000 for the purchase of books for the Library. The State appropriated \$500.00. The books were housed in the President's office, and one Professor was put in charge and paid \$20.00 per month for this extra service. In five years, 1878, President W.A. Jones reported the Library was used and had a collection of 1900 volumes.

In 1883 the building of the Indiana State Normal School and all its contents, including the library, was destroyed by fire. The city of Terre Haute immediately contributed \$50,000 and the State afterwards appropriated \$100,000, of which \$15,000 was devoted to library purposes. The new building erected was in every way superior to the old, and three of the largest and best rooms were fitted up for library use. The duties of librarian at that time were discharged by the President's secretary, who was also clerk and registrar, and for five years, 1885-1890, Miss Helen Gilbert, who later became Mrs. Robert Gillum, filled this post.

In June, 1890, Arthur Cunningham, Assistant Librarian of DePauw University, was appointed Librarian of the Indiana State Normal School. Before the arrival of students in September, the 5236 volumes were labelled and classed according to the Dewey Decimal Classification, and the work on a card catalogue of authors, titles, and subjects with references and cross-references was begun. Official catalogues were also started. Besides bound books there were kept on file some twenty current American and English magazines and as many newspapers. Before the \$15,000.00 special appropriation of the legislature was exhausted, a regular library fund was created by levying a fee of \$1.00 per term on each student of the school, which fee was afterwards increased to \$2.00. This fee, which was the only one charged in the school, yielded an income of \$5,000 annually and was used for books, periodicals, binding and library supplies. Salaries were paid, according to the law of the state, out of the tuition fund. Library hours were 8:00 - 12:00, 1:00 - 5:00 Monday through Friday and Saturday 9:00 - 12:00. Each student was permitted as many as three books at one time, but no two could be departmental reference books of the same subject.

In 1892 the Library was made a Department of Instruction and the position of Librarian raised to faculty rank. While this precedent had been established in the leading universities of the country, this was the first action of the kind in the State of Indiana and probably no other Normal School in the United States had given heretofore such recognition to its Library. Through the persistent efforts and great interest of President Parsons, progress was rapid and steady, eclipsing the development of the library in all similar institutions.

The library soon outgrew the quarters provided, and more room became a necessity. Great effort on the part of the President and Trustees brought results, and in 1893 a new wing to house the Library and Laboratories was begun. For lack of sufficient appropriation, it was not completed until two years later, 1895, at a cost of \$25,000. The structure was of pressed brick with stone trimmings in late renaissance style to conform to the main building. The interior was a model of that day in light, heat, ventilation, beauty and economy of administration. The Victorian influence was much in evidence in the polished white oak pillars, heavy cornices, wainscoting and carved pedestals. Upon one was the bust of Froebel, gift of the class of 1894. Among the pictures was a photograph of the Forum Romanum, gift of the class of 1893. The pride of the library was the iron stacks with adjustable steel shelving, the same as those employed in the new Congressional Library in Washington. The collection now numbered 11,000 volumes, but the new stacks had provision for 70,000 volumes. The floor was covered with inlaid linoleum, which was believed to be durable and comparatively noiseless. Last but not least, "The Library was truly a reflector of light with electricity and gas hanging down and jetting out of every quarter". Within the year the reading room was beautifully frescoed with two life-size figures on the ceiling symbolic of Philosophy and Poetry, reproductions of Raphael's famous work in the Camera della Segnatura of the Vatican in Rome.

In the next few years, the Library shared in the general prosperity of the school. New books were added and with more general use, new practices were established. In 1898 there were 23,000 volumes, and it was the design to build up gradually and steadily a large reference library especially strong in pedagogical literature. About this time, Mr. Cunningham suggested to the Board of Trustees that "Library Methods" be made a regular part of the curriculum so as to provide students with an intelligent understanding of methods and control, but as often happens the authorities failed to recognize the value of such practice, and it was some time before it was established.

The Library became the general workshop of the school, and to provide the freest and best use of books consistent with the interest of all, students as well as professors and instructors were given complete access to the shelves. This idea was not approved in library circles of that early day, and Mr. Cunningham was much criticized, but it is now an accepted plan. This freedom led to extraordinary use of the Library, and it continued to grow and expand.

In 1904 there were 35,000 volumes, widely distributed as to subjects. A Children's Department was opened with about 4,000 books to which the students of the Practice School had access. Some 200 current periodicals in English and foreign languages were kept on file. W.L. Henry, State Librarian, reported

the Indiana State Normal Library to be next to the Library of the Bureau of Education at Washington, the largest pedagogical collection in America.

By 1920, the rapid growth of libraries and their place in the educational system was an accepted fact. Andrew Carnegie by his benefactions gave wonderful impetus to the movement and libraries dotted the land as if by magic. Library commissions and laws favoring these institutions came into being. Public schools caught the spirit. The interest and sympathy of the National Education Association as well as American Library Association brought about a new department devoted to the common problems of the library and school. This gave rise to a new profession, the specially trained librarian. To meet this need the Board of Trustees of the Indiana State Normal School established a Department of Public School Library Science. Three courses of instruction were offered for which all students of the school were eligible. Credits for satisfactory work done were given on the regular curriculum of the school. In addition to his regular duties, Mr. Cunningham was given this responsibility.

It was during this period that Mr. Cunningham's ability and leadership in library circles began to be recognized. He was instrumental in forming the Indiana Library Association and served as its President.

Sister Providentia, Librarian of St. Mary of the Woods College, sought his advice and help in establishing the Dewey Decimal System in that library. Likewise he counselled with Mrs. Sally Hughes, Librarian of the Fairbanks Memorial Library, also Professor Albert Faurot, Librarian of Rose Polytechnic Institute, with a view to using this system in their libraries.

Before long it became apparent that the Library was rapidly outgrowing its present quarters. The collection now numbered 43,000 volumes, a valuable collection, and the need for a fireproof building was a consideration, since the laboratories above the library on the second floor posed a great hazard. A lot had been purchased and the Legislature appropriated \$99,970.00 for a new building. Plans were drawn, and in order to enlarge the site already acquired, Mr. Cunningham sold his home to the school with the privilege of removing the house. The contract was let August 6, 1907, and two and one-half years later, December 17, 1909, the building was received by the Board of Trustees.

That year I came to Terre Haute a bride. My first visit to the library on a hot July day is memorable. After climbing a flight of stone steps and walking through the main entrance, I beheld a group of Italian artisans clad in soiled white work clothes creating synthetic marble columns. The floor was cluttered with troughs of plaster in shades of tan, brown, orange, red, black and white. As the workmen applied different coats they streaked the surface with strips of dark cloth. The effect was surprisingly like marble. Later the columns were skillfully polished by hand with sand and pumice, and they were truly beautiful.

The meaning and purpose of the library was well typified in the dome. In a setting of opalescent art glass, in the zenith was a reproduction in oil of Raphael's Philosophy from the original in the Vatican Palace in Rome. Below

the figure was a series of twenty-four wreathed medallions pierced by flaming torches, with an open book in the center of each wreath. Beneath were the names of noted philosophers and educators, including six Indiana educators, among whom was Dr. William Wood Parsons, President of the School at that time, who had been a member of the first graduating class.

On the lower part of the dome were inscriptions: extracts from the Ordinance of 1787 which gave educational freedom to the Northwest; from the first constitution of the State of Indiana, 1816; from the constitution of 1851 which provided a general and uniform system of common schools; and from the Act of 1865 which established the Indiana State Normal School for the "Preparation of Teachers". This dome was beautiful, meaningful and artistic.

With a tinge of sadness I note that all this is gone. Beauty and artistry have been sacrificed for utility. In true American fashion, to make the building more functional, the dome has been covered and the columns wrapped with green linoleum.

This building of Indiana limestone, when completed with stacks and furnishings represented an investment of \$150,000. At the time of occupancy there were about 50,000 volumes with provision for 100,000, and an ultimate capacity of double that number. It was believed the building might serve the institution indefinitely. The staff now included the Director, four assistants and a janitor.

The following June, 1910, the new library building was dedicated. In the report which followed, the phenomenal growth of the library was recounted from its humble beginnings with a Bible, a dictionary and a few volumes which enterprising publishers had contributed; to its current valuable collection of books, pamphlets, educational magazines, and literary and scientific periodicals. The building was said to be the handsomest in the State devoted to library purposes.

Indiana State Normal Library was now afloat and under full sail. In the years that followed it made great strides. To provide greater service, evening hours, 6:30 - 9:00 were observed. By 1916 there were 70,000 volumes, the catalogue was expanded, and to provide more room for students, additional tables and chairs were purchased.

In 1918, when the Eastern Division of Indiana State Normal School was opened in Muncie, Mr. Cunningham formulated plans for a library, and he recommended Miss Hazel Armstrong be made Librarian, which position she held for two and a half years. This institution is now known as Ball State Teachers College.

During the First World War, to conserve fuel and power, the evening hours were discontinued. In 1920, the library had 80,000 volumes and 350 periodicals, and another deck of shelves was added.

In the Normal Advance of 1921 under the caption, "Do you appreciate our Library?", it was pointed out that one would find complete files of Wm Lloyd Garrison's Journal which flourished in the years before the Civil War,

in 1831-1832, also many leading foreign periodicals dating back thirty or more years.

In 1912, courses for the training of school librarians were offered once a year to Juniors and Seniors, and the library was open during the noon hours. About this time a discordant note came into the records when invoices disclosed that hundreds of books were disappearing from the stacks. The Student Council was considering punitive measures. Students were reminded that Indiana State Normal was the only college in the Middle West where all students were allowed to enter the stacks.

In 1923, there were 80,000 volumes and to cope with increased enrollment in the summer term, President L.M. Hiers, who had just assumed the Presidency, saw the need to enlarge the library staff. The library was now open from 7:30 in the morning to 9:00 in the evening. The Childrens Room was rearranged, reorganized and redecorated. Four thousand volumes were now being added annually.

In 1925, the Library had grown to 100,520 volumes, the largest Normal School Library in the United States. It was a depository for U.S. Government publications and the first Normal School to employ a special teacher of Library Science. The circulation for 1924-25 was 117,993 and 2354 students were served.

In 1926, the library movement in Indiana received national recognition, and for the first time in fifty-two years, the American Library Association met in Indiana at the West Baden Hotel.

In November 1928, my husband retired after thirty-eight years of service. At that time the Library was said to be the largest Normal School library in the world. Miss Hazel Armstrong, who had been connected with the Library since 1917, became Acting Librarian.

The following year, 1929, Edwin Fitzroy, City Librarian of Greeley, Colorado, was appointed Director of the Indiana State Normal Library. Under his administration new rules and regulations were established governing the use of books, fines were imposed on students not returning books promptly, and all persons not connected with the school were asked to pay a charge of three cents per day for each book borrowed.

Through an Act of the Legislature of 1929, the Indiana State Normal School became The Indiana State Teachers College. When degrees were offered, the Library was prepared for such effort, and no additional equipment or book holdings were necessary, testifying to the vision and wisdom used in the careful selection of books.

In 1933, Miss Hazel Armstrong became the Director of the Library. In 1934, Ralph Noble Tiney, Superintendent of Bloomington Public Schools, was appointed President of the College. By 1935, with 120,000 volumes to be accounted for, a new charging system was adopted. Pockets containing cards bearing title, author, volume, etc. was placed in all books. When the books were charged the borrower's name and date was added. This tremendous task was

made possible by a Government Grant which enabled the school to employ students to do the work.

Upon completion of the new Laboratory School in 1935, all books pertaining to courses taught in that building were transferred to the new building.

In 1936 and 1937, Indiana State and Ball State embarked upon a training and licensing program for school librarians in Indiana. Other institutions joined in the movement and courses were developed. A pattern emerged which has been influential in other states as well as in library schools.

Automation entered the library in 1939. To insure greater accuracy in charging books to the increased number of borrowers, and to serve students on correspondence, adult education, and extension classes, a Gaylord Charging Machine was installed. Students were required to use identification numbers instead of names. This system is still in use at the present time. The staff now numbered nine librarians.

The following year, 1940, an entirely new field for research in current events was provided by the introduction of microfilms, also a loan service of radios to classes wishing to listen in on current events.

In 1944 Mrs. Laura Childs, teacher of biology in the Bloomington High School and critic teacher of Indiana University, donated 3000 volumes to the Library. The books were marked "Child's Memorial Library" from a bookplate designed by the Art Department of the College. A fund was received for the purchase of new books to supplement the collection.

The first week of January, 1944, the "Education Materials Room" was formally opened on the second floor of the Library. Miss Melle McCalla was put in charge of this new division. This room, known as the "Teaching Materials Room" contained speeches, plays, language teaching aids, slides, audio-visual material, pamphlets and records.

April, 1950 was proclaimed Indiana Library Week. The Library now contained 153,000 volumes, subscribed to 385 periodicals and was a limited depository for Government Publications. Collections in the Teaching Materials division continued to grow and courses in the training of school librarians were popular. The Library was open Sunday afternoon, 1:00 - 5:00.

In October, 1951, Indiana State College Library was host to the Hoosier Student Library Association. Some 300 students were taken on tours of the campus, members of Bibliophile, the college library club, acted as guides. In 1952, the Sixth Annual Conference of Indiana School Librarians was held at the College. Representatives from Chicago University and the American Association of School Librarians gave addresses. That same year, 1952, the national undergraduate library science fraternity, Alpha Beta Alpha, installed Gamma chapter at Indiana State Teachers College, and students became eligible for membership.

In 1953, Dr. Raleigh Holmstedt, Associate Dean of the School of

Education, Indiana University, was appointed President of Indiana State Teachers College. In 1954 Miss Hazel Armstrong retired as Director of the Library, and she was succeeded by Samuel J. Marino, Acting Director of the Library of the University of Mississippi.

Within the year plans were under consideration to increase the facilities of the Library to provide for the growing collection and the various library departments, and to serve the increased number of students. The Legislature appropriated \$400,000 and on January 13, 1953 the Board of Trustees approved the plans to remodel the main building and erect a new wing, the new section to have a capacity of 150,000 volumes. Contracts were let and construction was begun in October 1955. The Library became a beehive of activity, and during all this building, moving and rearranging, the Library was in operation. Much credit is due all those who planned, labored and worked in this confusion. The work was completed early in 1957. When all furnishings and added equipment were installed, \$800,000 had been expended.

With more commodious quarters, the Library was now able to provide special rooms for conference, study and seminar use, for browsing and a reserve section, also expanded quarters for library science courses and teaching materials. Special equipment was provided for educational television programs, for listening to musical programs, book reviews, and viewing microfilm material.

In 1955-56, two scholarships were granted to prospective school librarians, one a Departmental and one a Staff Scholarship, open to Indiana residents only.

In 1956, I made a grant for the establishment of a memorial to my husband, Arthur Cunningham, to be known as the "Arthur Cunningham Collection of Monuments of American Education". This collection now numbers approximately 250 volumes, and is housed in the Director's Office. It is available for use by graduate students and faculty. The books have been identified as "The Arthur Cunningham Memorial Collection" by a bookplate from the Cunningham Clan Crest, designed by Dorothy and Elmer Porter. Whenever possible, first editions were obtained, and as choice copies are available it is expected that the collection will continue to grow.

In 1958, Mr. Fred W. Hanes, Lecturer of Library Science, Indiana University, was appointed Director of Indiana State College Library. Within the year the Library developed growing pains, and structural changes were made to enlarge the Reserve Book Section. Increased enrollment in the College made great demands on the Library, and a 10:00 P.M. closing time was being considered. The collection now numbered over 200,000 volumes with 200 current periodicals. As a U.S. Government Publications Depository, several thousand documents were received annually.

For some years the Library has been the proud owner of a small and valuable file of rare books, and early examples of printing, also an Incunabulum, dating back to the Cradle Period, prior to 1501.

In 1960, the Helen Layman Dix Memorial Scholarship was established

should be preserved for the future, and of what was ephemeral and of slight importance. This the the first art of a librarian, and it is evident that he possessed it in no small degree."

Quoting from Dr. Robert Seltzer, Professor of Political Science, "The invitation was extended to me for an interview for a position on the faculty of Indiana State Teachers College in August, 1947. I had checked on the college's accredited status and other pertinent matters concerning the community. My final decision to come for an interview to join the faculty was made after I discovered that the college library was an official U.S. Government depository of the Superintendent of Documents in Washington, D.C. Through the years 1948-1952 I found the college library more than adequate for teaching sixteen different courses in government and for basic data on my Ph.D. thesis, accepted by the Government Department of Indiana University, 1952."

The Indiana State College Library we know today represents the combined effort and zeal of many dedicated and scholarly men and women over a period of ninety-one years.

In conclusion, I would feel remiss if I did not state that it was Mr. Cunningham's untiring ambition and sincere desire to demonstrate that a librarian is much more than a clerk who receives and discharges books, that Library Science is a profession. A librarian must be familiar with the contents of books, and must have the zeal to create within others the need for the use of books. To this principle he was truly dedicated. This was the secret of his success.

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